

PATENT

CUSTOMER NO.: 31561

Attorney Docket No.: 9048-US-PA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Hsin-Hung Lee et al.

Serial No.: 10/064,382

Filed: July 9, 2002

For: Method of Preventing Cathode of
Active Matrix Organic Light Emitting
Diode from Breaking

Examiner: Jennifer M. Kennedy

Art Unit: 2812

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on 12/13/2002 regarding the above-identified application, Applicant elects the fifth embodiment, represented by Figures 6A-6B and claims 19-23, for further examination on merits. Please cancel claims 1-18 without waiver, prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of these cancel claims in a divisional application.

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Applicant, however, still respectfully traverse the restriction requirement for at least the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1-23 in the present invention basically have been divided into several groups as follows:

Embodiment 1 represented by Claims 1-4 & FIG. 2;

Embodiment 2 represented by Claims 5-9 & FIG. 3;

Embodiment 3 represented by Claims 10-14 & FIG. 4A-4C;

Embodiment 4 represented by Claims 15-17 & FIG. 5A-5D;

Embodiment 5 represented by Claim 18 & FIG. 4A-4C; and

Embodiment 6 represented by Claims 19-23 & FIG. 6A-6B.

Please note that Embodiment 1, represented by claims 1-4 (FIG.2), is directed to forming a dielectric resin passivation layer having a planarized surface on the thin film transistor to prevent the cathode breaking. Embodiment 2, represented by Claims 5-9 (FIG.3), is directed to forming a photosensitive layer covering the passivation layer to smooth the upper surface of the passivation to prevent the cathode breaking. Since Embodiment 1 (claims 1-4) and Embodiment 2 (claims 5-9) both use the method of providing a planarizing layer to prevent the cathode breaking, Embodiment 1 and Embodiment 2 are not independent or patentably distinct from each other. A restriction requirement to embodiments 1 and 2 is thus not proper.

In addition, Embodiment 3, represented by claims 10-14 (FIG.4A-4C), is directed to using a dry etching operation having a specific etching recipe to round the corners of the

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source/drain. Embodiment 5, represented by Claim 18 (FIG. 4A-4C), is directed to using a wet etching operation having a specific etching recipe to round the corners of the source/drain. Embodiment 4, represented by Claims 15-17 (FIG. 5A-5D) is directed to using another etching operation comprising removing a definite thickness of the conductive layer and removing a definite thickness of the photoresist layer to enable the source/drain pattern has a slope profile at each end. Embodiment 3 (claims 10-14), Embodiment 4 (claims 15-17) and Embodiment 5 (claim 18) are all directed to using etching operations having different recipes to achieve the object of preventing the cathode breaking. Hence, Embodiment 3 (Claims 10-14), Embodiment 4 (claims 15-17) and Embodiment 5 (claim 18) are not patentably distinct species of the claimed invention and a restriction requirement to these three embodiments is not proper.

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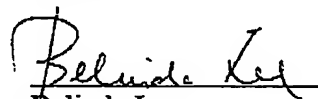
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No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date : Jan. 8, 2003


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TO: UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

MESSAGE: Enclosed please find the Response to Restriction Requirement

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